

**Section 7.4: Special Right Triangles**

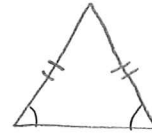
**Essential Question:**

How do you find the lengths of a  $30^\circ - 60^\circ - 90^\circ$  triangle and a  $45^\circ - 45^\circ - 90^\circ$  triangle?

**Previous VOCABULARY:**

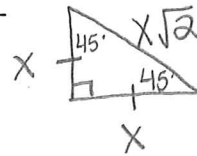
Isosceles Triangle

A triangle with two congruent sides  
 \* Base angles are  $\cong$



**Theorem 7.8:  $45^\circ - 45^\circ - 90^\circ$  Triangle Theorem**

In a  $45^\circ - 45^\circ - 90^\circ$  triangle, the hypotenuse is  $\sqrt{2}$  times as long as each leg.



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$x^2 + x^2 = c^2$$

$$2x^2 = c^2$$

$$\sqrt{c^2} = \sqrt{2x^2}$$

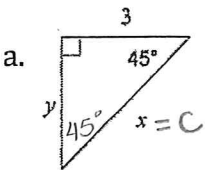
$$c = x\sqrt{2}$$

\*  $\text{hyp} = (\text{leg})(\sqrt{2})$   
 \*  $\text{leg} = \frac{\text{hyp}}{\sqrt{2}}$

Note: has a  $1:1:\sqrt{2}$  side ratio

**EXAMPLES:**

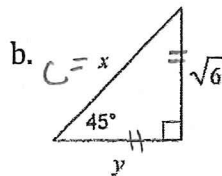
A1. Give the exact length of the missing sides.



$y = 3$

$x = \text{hyp}$   
 $x = \text{leg}(\sqrt{2})$

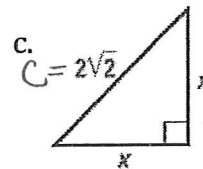
$x = 3\sqrt{2}$



$y = \sqrt{6}$

$x = \text{hyp}$   
 $x = \text{leg}(\sqrt{2})$

$x = \sqrt{6} \cdot \sqrt{2}$   
 $x = \sqrt{12} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 3} = 2\sqrt{3}$



$\text{leg} = x$

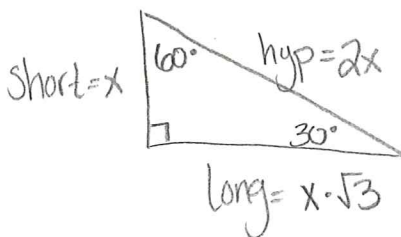
$x = \frac{\text{hyp}}{\sqrt{2}}$

$x = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$

$x = 2$

**Theorem 7.9:  $30^\circ - 60^\circ - 90^\circ$  Triangle Theorem**

In a  $30^\circ - 60^\circ - 90^\circ$  triangle, the hypotenuse is  $2$  times as long as the shorter leg, and the longer leg is  $\sqrt{3}$  times as long as the shorter leg.



\*  $\text{hyp} = 2(\text{short})$

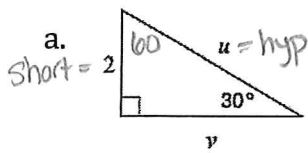
\*  $\text{Long} = (\text{short})\sqrt{3}$

\*  $\text{short} = \frac{\text{hyp}}{2}$

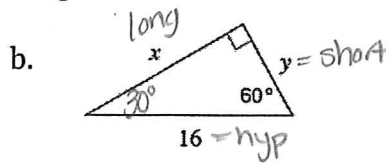
\*  $\text{Short} = \frac{\text{long}}{\sqrt{3}}$

Note: has a  $1:2:\sqrt{3}$  side ratio

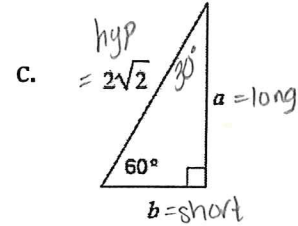
A2. Give the exact length of the missing sides.



long = short  $\sqrt{3}$   
 $y = 2\sqrt{3}$   
 hyp = 2(short)  
 $u = 2(2) \rightarrow u = 4$



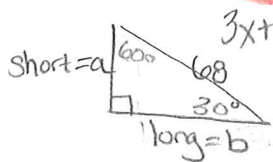
Short =  $\frac{\text{hyp}}{2}$   
 $y = \frac{16}{2} \rightarrow y = 8$   
 long = (short)  $\sqrt{3}$   
 $x = 8\sqrt{3}$



long = short  $\sqrt{3}$   
 $a = \sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{3}$   
 $a = \sqrt{6}$   
 $b = \frac{\text{hyp}}{2}$   
 $b = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2}$   
 $b = \sqrt{2}$

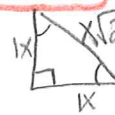
A3. Find the area of a triangle having a longest side of 68 cm with

a. An angle ratio of 3:1:2



$3x + 1x + 2x = 180$   
 $6x = 180$   
 $x = 30$   
 $2(30) = 60^\circ$   
 $3(30) = 90^\circ$   
 $1(30) = 30^\circ$   
 short =  $\frac{\text{hyp}}{2}$   
 $a = \frac{68}{2} = 34$   
 long = short  $\sqrt{3}$   
 $b = 34\sqrt{3}$   
 Area =  $\frac{1}{2}(34)(34\sqrt{3})$   
 $A = 1001.13 \text{ cm}^2$

b. A side ratio of 1:1: $\sqrt{2}$

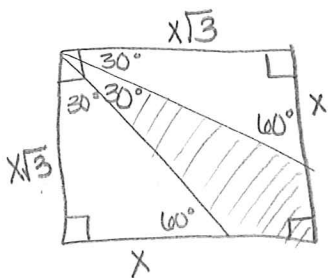


leg =  $\frac{\text{hyp}}{\sqrt{2}}$   
 $x = \frac{68}{\sqrt{2}}$  (both legs)  
 Area =  $\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{68}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \left( \frac{68}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = \frac{68 \cdot 68}{2 \cdot 2}$   
 $= 1156 \text{ cm}^2$

A4. Al baked a square pan of brownies for himself and his two sisters.

To divide the pan into three parts, he measured three 30 degree angles from one of the right-angled corners and cut the brownies into three large pieces. Two pieces form right triangles and the middle piece forms a kite.

- a) Did Al divide the pan of brownies equally?  
 b) Explain your reasoning.



Area  $\Delta = \frac{1}{2}(\text{Base})(\text{Height}) = \frac{1}{2}x \cdot x\sqrt{3} \approx .866x^2$   
 (30-60-90)  $2\Delta's = 2(.866x^2) = 1.732x^2$

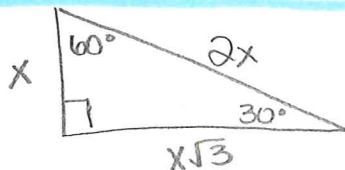
Area of  $\square = (\text{Length})(\text{width}) = (x\sqrt{3})(x\sqrt{3}) = 3x^2$

Area of Kite =  $\square - 2\Delta's = 3x^2 - 1.732x^2 = 1.268x^2$

No, one  $\Delta$  piece is  $.866x^2$  and Kite piece is  $1.268x^2$ . ( $1.268 > .866$ )

**Section 7.4 Summary:**

In a 30-60-90  $\Delta$ :

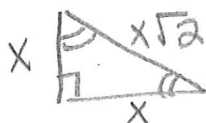


short =  $\frac{\text{hyp}}{2}$       long =  $\frac{\text{hyp}}{\sqrt{3}}$

hyp = 2(short)

long = short  $(\sqrt{3})$

In a 45-45-90  $\Delta$ :



hyp = leg  $(\sqrt{2})$

leg = hyp  $/\sqrt{2}$